NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

PUBLISHED BY JOSEPH BRECK & CO., NO. 52 NORTH MARKET STREET, (Agricultural Warehouse.)

VOL. XIX.] BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 5, 1840. [NO. 5.

N. E. FARMER.

From the Third Report on the Agriculture of Massachusetts.

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ON DRAINING AND SUBSOIL PLOUGHING.

The statements which I give below, are from an examination had before a large committee of the British Parliament, relating to draining and subsoil ploughing. I at first intended to give only a short abridgment of them; but they are of such remarkable importance, that I have chosen to give them at large. I know they will be read with the greatest interest.

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Statement by T. F. Kennedy, Esq., of Dunure, formerly M. P. for the Ayr Burghs, respecting his experience of the system of Draining and Subsoil Ploughing, recommended by Mr Smith, of Deanston, in the County of Stirling.

I have practised Mr Smith's system of draining and subsoil ploughing upon my farm, in the county of Ayr, during the last three years, and the result has fully justified every anticipation of benefit. It is applicable to all soils not rocky which have not an absolutely porous subsoil—the great object being, that the subsoil should be rendered artificially porous, and that all rain water should sink on the spot on which it falls, and that no running of water should take place on the surface.

There was, at the outset, considerable difficulty in having the work executed; it was arduous, and those engaged in the superintendence and labor were adverse, because they did not see the principles of the system, or the advantages which were likely to arise. A little encouragement and a distinct intimation that there must be perseverance, overcame every difficulty. This observation applies to the subsoil ploughing, while some difficulty attached to the perfect execution of the drains, in having them made of the full depth of 30 inches, and filled neither too much nor too little, and with all due care in all particulars which must be attended to to secure permanence in the effects. I have invariably made the drains twelve feet apart, in order to secure the effect being complete; being much impressed with the folly of spending a considerable sum per acre in the operation, and still failing to obtain what I may term perfection in the system. I have also used broken stones as the material when they could be obtained within such a distance as to prevent the expense of cartage being excessive; in other cases I have used tiles, with a layer of three or four inches of stones or gravel over them. When stones alone were used, the drains have been uniformly 30 inches deep, leaving 16 inches for the operation of the plough and subsoil plough; where tiles have been used, the depth has been about 24 inches, the same depth for the ploughs being left as in the other cases. A crop of oats has generally been taken after the drains have been executed, and the land has been comparatively dry; but even the visible effect has been very imperfect until the subsoil plough has been applied. By means of this plough the whole obdurate undercrust of the soil has been broken up, and all water has instantly escaped, and after six or eight months of the alternations of heat and cold, wet and dry, a most remarkable change has appeared in he condition of the soil; what was before obdurate and retentive, has become comparatively mellow and friable, and the longer the time since the operation has been performed, the greater has been the perceptible progressive effect. The operation of the subsoil plough has produced cracks and crevices and interstices to the depth of 16 inches; through these the rain passes off with rapidity, and these crevices are immediately filled by the air of the atmosphere, and during dry and hot weather these cracks and crevices are multiplied to an indefinite extent, and in clay soils to an extent quite remarkable. Instead of resuming its original tenacity, there seems to be a decided change effected in the character of the component parts of the land to the depth the plough has reached. It is for the skilful farmer to apply manure judiciously according to the state of each field. Drilled green crop has followed a crop of oats, and the land which before was unfit to grow turnips, has become fitted for that crop, although perhaps a little rough and cloddy during the first year. Next has come a crop of wheat, and in it has been seen the great and remarkable effects of the system, in the condition of the soil and the quantity of produce. Land which was before, in truth, unfit to carry wheat from extreme wetness, has become altogether the reverse, being sown with wheat without ridges and furrows, being perfectly porous; all rain disappearing as it falls, and being carried off by filtration to the many drains, and each drain having little more than a thread of water to carry off. Possibly the land of which I speak might have previously yielded a precarious produce of 20, or at the utmost 24 bushels of wheat per imperial acre, while in its improved state, the actual produce of the crop of 1835 has been 40 bushels thrashed out, a few bushels of which were not very good in quality, owing to what is now to be mentioned. The fault of the crop was, that it was too strong, and there being much rain while it ripened it was laid down. Had this not occurred, the quality of the whole would have been good, and there is no doubt that six or eight bushels more per acre would have been obtained. The facts, therefore, are most satisfactory, because the result in the first wheat crop may truly be said to be twenty bushels of wheat of extra produce, in return for an expense of 10*l.* 10*s.* per acre, which was the cost of the drainage and the extra expense of subsoil ploughing. It ought to be stated that with the turnips, the land was well manured, and subsequently abundantly. After the wheat was carried, and during the winter, the field was ploughed about nine inches deep with the ordinary plough, and remained rough until the month of March, the whole rains of winter, which were excessive, sinking as they fell. Towards the end of March the field was harrowed, drilled, and sown with beans without any manure. The crop is promising, and there can be no doubt that the powers of the soil which have now been brought into action, will render it abundant. The soil is so powerful, that it is intended to take a crop of wheat after the beans, without any manure, but taking care to make the land perfectly clean; and there is little doubt that the wheat crop of 1837 so treated, will be more productive than that of 1835, because it will be less superabundant in straw, and incur less probable injury from being laid down.

My experience, on a moderate scale, leads me to say, that the system is the greatest discovery which has been made in agriculture, (because it is applicable to soils hitherto almost intractable and most expensive to cultivate,) provided it be applied only where the altitude justifies the undertaking, by securing a climate suitable to valuable crops. It in truth converts almost the worst into the best land—that is, the most powerful in respect of production, because the quality of land to which it is applicable, the heavy clays and retentive subsoils will yield heavier crops after such treatment than the lighter loams and many of those varieties of soil which hitherto have been so pleasant to the agriculturist to cultivate.

The reformation which the system effects on lands which previously were looked on as hopeless, is quite surprising, and no one believes it until it is seen; but again I say, that the whole success depends on the perfect and complete manner in which the operations are executed, as any thing being merely an approximation to the system, will end in disappointment. The expense of what is perfect must not be grudged, and as sure as it is liberally given will it be abundantly repaid. I would also say, that the effects of the draining and subsoil ploughing are dependent on each other; the one is comparatively worthless without the other; the ploughing would be thrown away without the previous draining, and the draining is a poor improvement compared to the combined effect with the subsoil ploughing.

I may state that my bailiff and the ploughmen who worked the subsoil plough, certainly, in the outset thought my orders almost foolish, (who nevertheless carried them into effect faithfully,) but now see the effects of the system, and are fully sensible of the extraordinary benefits resulting from it.

The various views of the advantages might be multiplied to any extent, but a concise statement of them seems to be, that the most obdurate and intractable soils assume a friable and mellow character, and at the same time are rendered permanently most productive. A system which is applicable to 10 acres is equally so, in its principle, to 10,000 or 100,000 acres, and consequently the system becomes a most important national consideration. My decided impression is, that capital judiciously applied in the execution of this system may yield a return varying from 10 to 40 or 50 per cent. according to the various circumstances attending the infinite variety of cases in which the system may be carried into effect. Every thing depends on the mode and perfection of execution. If any one thinks of limiting the expense of complete ex-

ecution, he may rest assured, that the recompense will be still more restricted, and that it is more judicious to improve one acre well, than to deceive himself by a superficial operation on a more extended surface.

A remarkable effect is, that the harvest is considerably earlier on land so treated than on the same land in its previous state, and it is scarcely necessary to remark, that there will be a constant return for the same seed and labor and manure far greater than when they are applied to land in a naturally wet condition.

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Evidence of James Smith, Esq., inventor of the Subsoil Plough.

Chairman. You live at Deanston?—Yes.

Where is that?—In the western district of Perthshire in Scotland.

Do you occupy a considerable farm in that part of Scotland?—About 300 acres.

Have you improved your farm lately?—I have.

In what way?—Chiefly by thorough draining and subsoil ploughing.

What was the nature of the soil upon your farm?—It was various: there is some part of it rather light soil, some of it gravelly upon the edge of the river, and some lightish loam, with rather a tenacious bottom, and in other parts a stiff sandy clay.

Is it a stiff subsoil?—Some part of it very stiff.

And it was all subject very much to wet?—The greater part of it was covered with rushes and bent before being drained.

Will you describe to the committee your mode of draining?—The principle upon which I drain is to put in drains frequently, so that there may be opportunities for the water to pass off, because I find that in our climate the chief injury arises from the water that falls from the heavens.

Are those drains placed up the furrows or across the land?—They are placed in the same direction that the furrows were before, but I have now no furrows. I lay all my fields down without any furrows. I object to furrows, because water is allowed to collect in a body, and thereby ruins the soil.

The fact is, that those drains are so frequent that they answer the purpose of furrows?—Yes; they answer the purpose of furrows.

How far are they apart?—Twentyone feet, and two feet six inches deep to the bottom.

Do you drain with stones or with tiles?—Chiefly with broken stones, because I have stones upon the land.

You spoke of subsoil ploughing; you are the inventor of a subsoil plough?—I am.

Do you use it after draining?—After draining. I first take a grain crop, and then after the separation of that crop from the ground I subsoil plough.

How far do you fill up the drain with stones?—I put in 12 inches of stones, leaving 18 inches between the upper part of the drain and the surface of the soil, and then I cover them most carefully with very thin sods, overlapping at the joinings, because it is of the first importance to prevent the soil which has been recently removed from running into the drains. There are many drains destroyed by means of the soil getting in at the top.

The water comes in at the side of the drains?—Yes, by fissures in the subsoil.

Will you describe the operation of the subsoil plough?—I have got a plate of it here, *(producing the same.)** The principle upon which I constructed that plough was this, that I saw it was of the greatest importance to break up the subsoil, especially where it was tenacious. I saw that the common trench plough, when used to break up the subsoil, at the same time turned over the recently moved subsoil to mix with the surface soil, which induced a sort of partial sterility for a time. I then bethought me of having a plough that would move the subsoil, still retaining the active soil upon the surface, and I considered how I should construct it to have the least draught, so that the horses might easily draw it, because I was aware that it would require considerable force. I therefore made the plough as thin as possible in its transverse section, and the share of the plough, which is usually made with a free point not touching upon the lower part of the plough, and I found it was apt in stony land to get knocked out of its place, and therefore I made a mortice in the sock, and inserted the point of the share in this mortice; then in order to move the subsoil as much as possible, I placed an oblique spur upon the one side of the plough, which throws up the subsoil after the furrow has been divided and breaks it, but does not throw it further up than the bottom of the furrow of the active soil.

Mr Hadley. Does not the spur increase the draught?—It does not materially.

How many horses does it require to work that plough?—Generally four horses in ordinary subsoils, but upon some it has been necessary to use eight horses.

How deep do you plough?—Sixteen inches from the surface.

Mr Loch. What is the depth of the original furrow?—Six inches: we first go on with the common plough and turn over a furrow of the depth of six or eight inches, and then the subsoil plough goes and stirs up the bottom without bringing the soil further up than its original position, then when the common plough comes round again, it throws the active soil upon that part which has been subsoiled.

Then the advantage of stirring up the subsoil is, that the water which falls gets down to the bottom of the second furrow so as to relieve the upper soil from the effects of the rain that falls?—Yes; besides there is a constant operation of the air upon the subsoil, which converts it into soil.

Mr Cayley. Is it with a view to draining principally?—With a view first to draining, and then to converting the subsoil into a fit soil for growing plants.

It makes the soil more permeable?—Yes.

How long have you been doing this?—About twelve years.

In the first instance, if you were to turn up that subsoil, it would not be a productive soil, and therefore you prepare it by this course for subsequent turning up when it is prepared?—Yes.

When you conceive it to have come into a proper state for vegetation, do you turn it up at once or gradually?—At once.

Do you find that the soil will be very productive the first year after it is turned up?—I find it so.

Do you stir it up with the old soil?—I subsoil it only once. I then take a green crop, followed by a grain crop; then it lies three years in grass; and then after that, I take a crop of oats; and then after, I turn it up to the depth of sixteen inches.

Then it takes about three or four years to bring the subsoil to a proper degree of preparation?—It does.

After the subsoil has been brought into a proper degree of preparation for vegetation, have you ever tried the experiment of bringing in a certain proportion, say a fourth part of the subsoil after it is prepared, into co-operation with the active soil?—I have, and it answers very well.

Do you consider that the bringing into play the whole of the subsoil at once is a better thing and more productive than holding in reserve a portion of the subsoil?—I think it is.

After turning up the subsoil how many years have you grown crops upon it?—My mode of cropping is a seven years' shift, and I have now four fields undergoing a second shift.

Have you had the experience of what the condition of the previous active soil becomes, from being in a state of rest for several years?—It is all mixed together.

Then the effect of your system is to produce a new soil instead of the old one?—Yes.

Mr Denison. According to your plan, supposing you were not to have turned up any of this subsoil, but merely to have had your subsoil plough pass through it, and were to go on cultivating without any thing being turned up to the top, instead of producing sterility, would even that produce an improvement of the crop?—It would, and a continued improvement.

After getting upon land that has been subsoil ploughed, and then ploughing it up again, do you find that the subsoil continues friable?—I do to the bottom.

With strong tenacious soils you do not find that it is run together again?—No.

Mr Heathcote. You have no furrows, and you plough 16 inches deep in all parts of the farm?—Yes.

Do you find that the water stands at the bottom of the furrow any length of time before it gets into the drain?—I do not think it does, but I cannot see the bottom of the furrow.

When you turn it up how do you find it?—I find it particularly dry, and sometimes where the land has been poached in consequence of taking off a green crop, still it is perfectly dry at the bottom of the furrow.

You do not find that the treading of horses has any effect upon it at that depth?—None whatever; the effect of the most thorough poaching does not go beyond six inches, and below that it is found quite dry.

Will this subsoil ploughing apply to all species of soils?—I have never yet seen any soil that it would not apply to.

The most retentive stiff soil?—Yes, and the deep bog as well.

Mr Denison. After breaking up the subsoil, but without turning it up to the top, suppose the farmer was to continue to plough it seven or eight inches, in that case how long do you think the operation on the subsoil would remain effectual, or how soon do you suppose it would run together again?—I think it would never run together in a solid form, because when it has been turned up there is a constant circulation of the water and the air, which prevents running together again; and when soil is laid in a dry position and exposed to the atmosphere, it seems to get some sort of attractive quality: if you look at any mould you will find that it is all in little globules, and those are gathered together in large masses, forming larger globules which keep the soil open.

Do you think that the mere operation of allow-

*See First Report of Agriculture of Mass., p. 1.

ing water and air to pass among the soil at a considerable depth in the ground would, to a certain degree, produce that effect upon solid clay of converting it partially into soil?—I think it would.

Mr Loch. What was the nature of that soil which you said was covered with bent before you ploughed it up?—A great part of it I did not think worth more than 5*s.* an acre.

In consequence of what you have done to it, what is it worth now?—I consider that it is worth 2*l.* an acre to any farmer.

What was the course of cropping that you adopted in the improvement of land?—At first I was rather undecided with regard to the rotation I should follow, till from observation I formed a judgment what was the best course. The mode of rotation I generally followed was this: I drain always, if possible, in the lay or grass, because by draining in the lay the work is more neatly done; then having completed the drains, I take a crop of oats the next year. Upon the greater part of that farm I have been obliged to plough very shallow furrows for the first crop, because there was not more than three or four inches of soil that I dared turn up; then I took a crop of oats, and upon some of the fields I had not more than from 24 to 30 bushels of oats. After the separation of that first crop from the ground, I applied the subsoil plough. Then I gave it another ploughing, and had a green crop; potatoes upon some parts and turnips upon others.

Could you have attempted any of those crops previous to the subsoil ploughing?—Not to advantage.

How long had it been in grass before you turned it up?—Some of it 15 years.

What is the next crop after the turnips and potatoes?—I then lay down what I have had in potatoes with wheat; I sow wheat in the end of the season, as soon as I can get the potatoes up; what I have had in turnips I grow barley upon in the spring, and I sow grass seeds upon both.

You could not have attempted barley upon that soil before?—Not with any success, and not wheat, because the land was so full of moisture that it honey-combed by frost, and so threw out the plants. There was one field especially, after a very severe winter, and with a frost, there was sometimes a space of 20 or 30 square yards from which every plant or vegetable had been thrown, not a bit of grass remaining upon it.

After the wheat what do you take?—I sow grass and barley.

Do you cut the grass for hay?—Some: the other is pastured from the beginning.

What is the nature of the grass it produces?—Very good, and very heavy crops of hay; I have generally about 300 stone, which is about three tons per acre.

Do you think that any improvement is likely to be so valuable for general purposes as frequent draining and subsoil ploughing for strong land?—None.

That, you think, is the most important thing for general purposes of farming that you are acquainted with?—Decidedly.

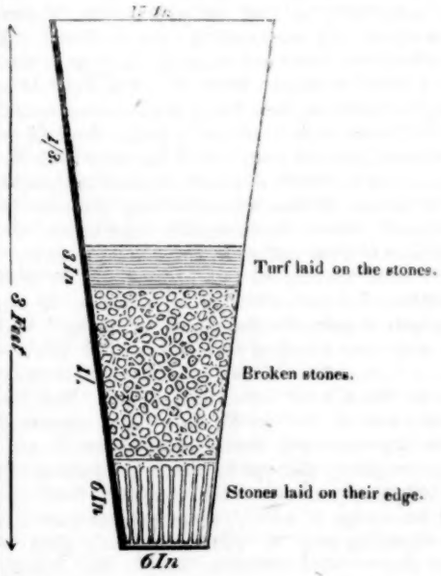
And applicable to more qualities of soil than any thing else?—Applicable, I should say, to all qualities of subsoil.

And equally applicable to England as to Scotland?—Equally so, and very much wanted. I have a friend who has made an experiment under my directions in Cheshire, upon very stiff land, Mr Barton; it is the most thorough brick clay I ever saw; an extremely sterile farm in its original state. Mr Barton has been completely successful; he has thoroughly drained the ground and subsoil ploughed, and it is now laid down without furrows, and I there saw a large field of this extremely stiff clay with a beautiful seed surface upon it.

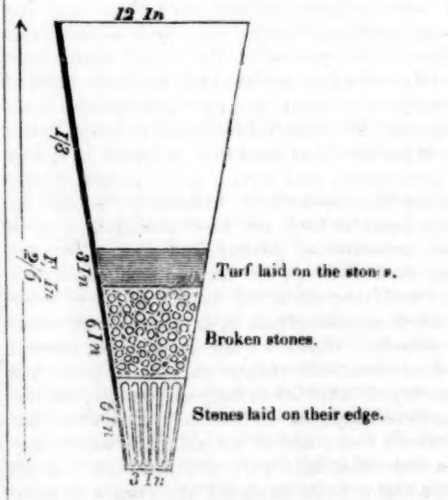
Mr Denison. Do you think that it is applicable to a soil where there is a bad gravelly substratum?—I think so; I think any substratum, if it is exposed to the atmosphere for a sufficient length of time, will become fertile. In the most barren country, if you see where a ditch has been dug, on the soil which has been thrown up, you will generally find a richer verdure and strong weeds growing.

White's Account of Draining on Smith's Plan.

MAIN DRAIN.



SMALLER DRAINS.



The main or leading drains are cut 3 feet deep, 15 inches wide at the top, taper to 6 inches at the bottom, and filled up with stone from 15 to 18 inches. The smaller drains, leading into the main, are 2 feet 6 inches deep, 12 inches wide at the top, taper to 3 inches at the bottom, and filled with stone 13 inches, with turf upon the stone. The stone is first placed on edge, about 6 or 7 inches, and the remaining part covered with stone broken to 2 1/2 inches; a section of these drains is given: the drains are parallel to each other. The subsoil varies much; the price for cutting the whole, breaking the stones and filling, has invariably been 1*d.* per yard; some part has worked better than others, and, upon the whole, I think the work cannot be done for less. With regard to the distance between the drains, in this part, the work must be put out according to circumstances, which requires much attention, as great expense might unnecessarily be incurred, or the object fail. When the land is ready for the operation of the subsoil plough, a man with a pair of horses turns out the first furrow from 10 to 12 inches wide; then follows the subsoil plough to the depth of 14 inches, taking care not to stir the turf covering the stones in the drains; it is worked at right angles of the drains, and drawn by six horses, two and two abreast. The plough is drawn from an axletree, with double shafts and low wheels; the horses draw perfectly even, and by this mode it is no more than ordinary work.

GAPES IN CHICKENS.

A correspondent of the Albany Cultivator gives the following remedy for the gapes in chickens:

"Remove the worms out of the windpipe and they will get well. This can be done with safety and facility after a little practice, in the following manner. Let some one take the chicken, holding its legs in one hand and placing the other over its back, so as to hold it firm; then let the operator take a small hen's feather or a large pigeon's feather, and strip off the feather from the stem excepting about an inch or inch and a half from the tip end, according to the size of the chicken; wet it a little, and strip that part back so that what remains on the stem will stand back like the barbs on an arrow, excepting the extreme point, which roll a little so as to make a point; then let the operator take the head of the chicken in his left hand, placing his thumb and forefinger on each side of the bill, in such a manner as to hold the mouth open, the neck gently but firmly drawn out in a straight line; then observe the opening back in the tongue, place the feather as near to it as possible, and when the chicken breathes, the windpipe will be open, enter the point quick, and fear not after the point is entered; push down gently from two to three inches, (don't be in too much of a hurry,) then draw out, and turn the feather as it is drawn, and the worms will adhere to the feather, and others will be loosened, and the chicken will sneeze them up frequently, so that they will fly out of their mouths. It is not advisable to enter the feather more than twice at one time; let the chicken go, and if it gapes the day after, you have not got them all; try again. This is a sure cure if attended to; generally you need not perform the operation more than once, but sometimes oftener. The greater part of my chickens, over one hundred in number, have had the disease, and I have lost but one. I have taken out as many as eleven worms at one haul."

In scalding hogs, dip them in cold water before hot, and the bristles will come out easier.

For the N. E. Farmer.

RURAL EDUCATION.

No. II.

Education can never find a true and pure basis, such a one as philosophy could approve, out of the order of nature. That order points to woman, as the first operator on body and mind. The first and most important faculties are taught and cultivated by her. And who shall say, that in the earliest dawn of intellect, the seeds of virtue or vice are not sown by her, through ignorance; for we cannot suppose it *ever* to be her wish to impair the fruit of her love, the fond hope of her future joy.

Education begins at her hands, from the first moment she applies the infant to her breast. Her every motion is a lesson; and as every motion has a meaning, and a *character* withal, the meaning and the impulse, be they good or bad, patient or impatient, just or unjust, must leave a durable impression. All primary education is imitation; and the infant mind learns only by physical imitation. Can this be doubted by any one who ever noticed the combativeness of the little children of the Irish on Broad street, compared with those of the more polished parts of the city? With reasonable allowance for exceptions, are not children like their parents in temper? I might extend these questions far; but no one will doubt of the influence of a mother over the future character of her child.—But when a mother is almost perfect in herself, and her child is almost the reverse, let not such unfortunate coincidences tend to weaken the faith in maternal example. These cases are very rare, and might be traced almost invariably to their true source, and that somewhere else than in the mother. But how few mothers act always themselves. How many of the best of them are impelled by the unreasonable conduct of others, of their own household or out of it, into temporary fits of humor or passion in the presence of their children. Who has not seen these little farces played over, by the youngest children, on others, or on their dolls. How can a child conceive an idea of imperfection in the beings it looks up to as the gods of its infancy. It must then imitate the good and the bad indifferently. Is it easy to make a young tree which springs crooked from the earth, grow straight? Is it more easy to eradicate that moral tortuousness which is acquired in infancy, from the beloved source of its existence, by wordy precept; and that too, from some cold pedagogue, whose harsh and severe tones are not like the music of a mother's voice? How long does it take rational man to divest himself of the foolish fear of a grave-yard in a dark night? The seeds of this folly were sown in tender youth; and the ripest age with experience and reason, cannot always obliterate them.

The evil spirit, as it is called, manifests itself so early in life, sometimes, that well might superficial observers suspect that it comes into the world with life itself. But such an idea is so foreign from all the perfect works of nature and its Author, that no reasonable mind should harbor it for one moment. All that is imperfect we should in truth as well as in humility attribute to ourselves. If then it be admitted that instead of being all originally bad, we are all originally good, all the imperfections of which we complain are *really* and *substantially* within the reach of remedy; and that remedy is in the hands of him who has the greatest interest in having it applied successfully, viz: MAN. If I be allowed here to distinguish woman from man, I should say, that woman has the greatest interest of the two, in the moral reform of society. But I cannot enlarge on this pregnant idea in this place.

If what I have presumed above, of the power of primary, maternal education, over *all* the evils of society be not true, vain is the labor of *all* education; and the history of all former progress is a deception. We have then made *no* progress. The social school is in a worse condition than when the schoolmaster first began his task. Education, like every thing, surely had a beginning; and that can be found nowhere but in the cradle; and who will dispute the importance of *beginnings* in all things? At the beginning of two diverging lines in geometry, if the departure be imperceptibly small, yet the consequent distances will be infinite. How then can too much stress be laid on the *beginning* of *that* on which all future happiness depends? Have vice, and crime increased with the progress of society from its simple to its more complex forms? The pulpit tells us that we are all backsliders. This is not very encouraging; but it should not dishearten the brave and virtuous, the true believers in divine wisdom. If we are all backsliders in moral practice, we have surely gained some mental strength wherewith to regain a better foothold on moral and physical truth. And that very backsliding, it may be hoped, may carry us back in thought, to the source of truth, where we may discover the first small, almost imperceptible departure of the two lines of truth and error, and correct it *there*.

To mend the original evil impressions, by after education, is a task which no moralist has, as yet, been able to prescribe the means of doing. All the religions we read of seem to have had this object in view. All the laws which have been made, assume *that* to have been their object. But the present state of the world, after many thousand years experience and mental labor, shows no adequate progress: perhaps *no* moral progress at all, if numbers and crimes were compared, from the first knowledge of society, to the present time. If this appalling truth be admitted, it only goes to show that we have heretofore sought the remedy for moral and physical evil in the wrong place; and must seek for it elsewhere. I wish I could in conscience attribute this error entirely to ignorance. But I cannot, no more than I can believe that the learned judges and clergy, who hung witches and quakers, were ignorant of the sin of those acts. Worldly and selfish motives have certainly impeded the progress of morals and good governments in all countries. We Americans assume to know, by our own experience, and some real progress in morals and government, that certain governments widely differing from our own, do absolutely require for their support, as they are now constituted, ignorance, superstition, poverty and vice. In such countries, therefore, a few learned men might have discovered, long since, the source of their evils, but dared not promulgate it, or propose any effectual remedy. Hence we see no attempts there of a radical cure; but simply palliatives, weak and temporary, to ward off as long as possible, the terrible threatnings of revolution. Education has never been free; and if all subjects which may come under that head were specified here, it is not certain that it could be called free even with us.—I will not, however, contend with its distant forms, before I have examined more closely its small beginnings: and it should be the constant aim of all those who meddle with this important subject, to make all the means which they employ subservient to the great and only reasonable end of making men better and happier; every other consideration should yield to these.

The heart may be cultivated only in tender youth, though the head may be improved at all ages. If the importance of the former must not yield to the latter, it behoves us to give our special attention to that (the heart.) Interest, pride and ambition will take care of the head; and if legislators had no other regard for *that*, than what was conducive to the improvement of the heart, they would have little else to do, than to show in the spirit of all the general laws they enacted, their *own* regard for justice, which is the heart's own empire.

I will not now open that Pandora's box, which might exhibit in all its ugly features, the general injustice which has pervaded from time immemorial, the statutes of all governments, for the *edification* and *moral improvement* of full grown scholars, teaching them by an exalted example, lessons of fraud which these very lawgivers *declare* they will punish by severe penalties, even to death, if poor *individuals* presume to follow *their* example and neglect their precepts;—but I will for the present, merely ask these wise legislators, these pretended reformers of the world, at least in our boasting America, how they can expect that woman, who only can have the power to give the first important impulse of character to man, will be able to perform this delicate duty, while she is opposed by the tyranny of physical force, the injustice and tyranny of the law, and the tyranny of fashion? She is called upon to make bricks where the straw is refused; and the light of the sun even is shut out from her labors. In the midst of these important labors, if perchance some faint rays of light have pierced the dark cloud of *male* tyranny, and shone upon her for a moment, her sublime lord and master breaks the delicate thread in her hands, and replaces it with a ponderous chain. His superior wisdom commands, and her docile nature obeys;—she is thwarted in a thousand ways, and by as many whims; and perhaps separated from her tender ward at an age when nothing but the tender cares and peaceful example of a happy mother is wanting. If I had not a great aversion to the interference of the laws in domestic concerns, beyond what is indispensable, I would recommend deferring the technical A B C education to the sixth year, leaving the physical and purely moral education entirely in the hands of the mother. But I will not indulge myself in speculating on this difficult branch of the subject; for however desirable a radical reform may be, I can see as well as others, a thousand difficulties in practice, growing out of the present state of society, which admonish us of the imperious necessity of yielding to them now, while we boldly contemplate them, and admit them to be curable in time. The instruments necessary for a reform in education are yet to be created. A better and more general knowledge of the errors of the existing system and its unfruitful results,—a more perfect understanding of all that we require of education, in a moral and political view; and a clearer insight into the means best calculated to accomplish our end, is what should principally occupy our attention. Under this prudent and patient system, however, it may not be inexpedient to make occasionally some gentle innovations, such as the present state of society will tolerate.

The physical education of female children is happily beginning to attract notice; and the most fashionable mothers becoming sensible of the great importance of health, from the want of it, now allow their girls to take strong exercise in the open air. I heard from the lips of Dr. Kirkland, the late learned professor of Harvard University, that if he had to choose between learning and health, he would choose the latter. I may add, that when the heart is right, the head is seldom wrong; and the heart may be made right without much technical learning.

After stating what woman can do, when strengthened by the wisdom of society and enlightened on her own duties, powers and interest, I may glance delicately at the evil she now does. Will she believe that she often conspires against her own happiness? Woman ought to be the first to stand up for the promotion of just and equal laws. The smallest attention to her own degraded condition, a few centuries ago, and her equivocal condition now, although greatly improved, will teach her why *she*, in particular, should contend for general justice.—She is a great admirer of splendid talents; so ardent is she in this devotion, that she will, in their favor, overlook the grocest accompanying vices; even those which tend to degrade her own sex. Speak of a man of shining parts in her presence, but without morals, and a sensible, modest man of modest fame, and notice the relative estimation she holds them in. Compare two decidedly vicious characters, the one highly talented or fashionable, and the other less so; and see how differently do the same vices weigh in her mind. Both ought to be excluded from her society; but for what? for their vices. But is this the case? The former, whose immorality is ten times more dangerous, through its fascinating accompanyments, is admitted, and the latter, more harmless, is rejected. The *vice* then is not that which she seems to abhor; but the absence of power to please. There is a Persian adage which says, "If knowledge *without virtue* were estimable, who could be more estimable than the *devil*."

Woman worships the brave as well as the eloquent. So we all ought to love *true* courage, and eloquent truth. But the eloquent tongue may flatter, and the sharp sword may defend her; but the former may also seduce or slander her, when principle is not its companion; and the latter may lay in the dust the virtuous champion who stands up in her defence when her virtue is assailed, by a man of mere animal courage, but devoid of true honor. Woman will be more just and judicious in these respects, when she understands her interest better. When she has exercised all her power over infant man, then shining parts in man will not be used for sophistical deception in morals, politics, or religion; not even for female seduction; for man so educated will be more virtuous and woman more enlightened. Then too will the champion's sharp sword become less wanted, not only in the cause of woman, but on all accounts; for even now is duelling but a miserable supplement to imperfect laws; which laws will become more perfect, and supercede the *necessity* of that practice, when justice and a true sense of virtue shall rise from the true femenine source, to which I now point, unimpaired by those sinister powers which have so long warped its progress upwards.

We want no better foundation for *that* education which would lead to sound morals, good government, and pure religion, than *interest*—the interest well understood of men and especially of women.

Social virtue, without a worldly motive, has been too long the chimera of transcendentalists. I use this modern word, as sufficiently expressive of an ancient vague notion of something not within the reach of the senses, or of common sense. Let us be more humble, and come down to the use of the powers given to us; they will answer all our purposes, and we shall be the wiser as well as the better for keeping nearer to nature's limits. Let us then take this well known wordly motive, *interest*, and not despise it, or try to make it despicable by misapplying it. It is a very good motive. It is, in a final analysis, the *only* motive of man. If you must have inspiration, *that* is inspiration: God has inspired it into the hearts of all his creatures.—Seeking for something beyond and above interested motives, something undefinable and unintelligible, has caused us to overlook the true foundation of social perfection. The inconceivable distinction between spiritual and mundane truths; between virtue celestial and virtue terrestial, have bewildered us, and given too much occasion for moral quacks to build up their own supremacy on our degradation. If we take as our infallible guide that unerring monitor which accompanies all reasonable men, moral as well as political quackery will die for want of aliment; and none but true teachers will be listened to; and it will not then be difficult to distinguish true from false teachers; for those only *are* true who can make themselves understood. There is no mystery in morals or in honest politics.

I shall defer the technical part of my subject, with your leave, Mr Editor, so long as materials may fall under my hands wherewith to widen and strengthen the foundation of education.

We are just beginning to learn the importance of having competent teachers; and in imitation of a French and Prussian practice, some forty years old, are now instituting *Normal* schools for the teaching masters how to teach. I ventured to propose this system about 20 years ago in some of our papers. Two of those papers insisted on changing the world *Normal* into *Moral*, and so it was repeated in others in my absence, and made nonsense.

If then the importance of preparing male teachers for technical education be admitted, who will say that it is of no importance to prepare, qualify, and empower the female cultivators of the heart, without which all the technical knowledge in the world is worthless; nay worse than worthless—it is a new power for mischief; as a knowing man without principle is worse than an ignorant man without vice.

Would you place your child in the hands of a slave to teach him the duties of a freeman? would you confide it to a reputed liar to make it a lover of truth? would you, to inspire it with that lovely candor and youthful frankness which we all admire, and which is the secret charm of youth, choose for it a preceptor, at an age when example is every thing, and precept nothing, whose very condition in society, commands an habitual state of dissimulation—one who was not permitted to speak or act the truth? John Randolph, with all his eccentricities, was a man of truth: and he says, "a man may act a falsehood—he may be maliciously false without opening his mouth." If then example be teaching, and there be an age in which first impressions are almost ineffacable, shall that important period be unnecessarily exposed to evils for which no adequate remedy has yet been found? Shall Normal schools be instituted for the improvement of the head, and the improvement of the heart be confided to incompetent teachers; to mothers, who are *prohibited* from a duty so interesting to themselves, and so important to social progress?

Lycurgus and his followers down to Owen, were fully aware of the power of education by example. Man's nature has been almost changed by it. Better indeed would it be, as in Sparta, that the iron despotism of rulers should deprive the mother of every care of her child, than to leave her unprepared for this important duty.

WM. FOSTER.

TREATMENT OF WOODLAND.

To the Editor of the New England Farmer:

In reply to the inquiry of your friend at Harvard, in your paper of the 22nd inst., I would state, from some experience and more observation, that when woodland is cleared and it is designed to have wood grow again, it by no means should be burnt or ploughed; but secure it from cattle and let it remain untouched, is much the better way; there will sooner be a new and thrifty growth. Besides experience and observation of the fact, it is rational to suppose that it should be so—that is, to *me* it is rational. Some have an idea that the next growth after clearing, proceeds from the stumps by sprouts. This is, in some measure the case, but not wholly so: there is generally and perhaps always, seed in the ground, sufficient to produce a crop of wood, that are covered with leaves, but when exposed to the sun, soon vegetate. Hence the reason that when a wood lot is cut off, a growth of an entirely different kind of wood takes the place of the former growth: for instance, it frequently happens that where a growth of oak has been taken off, a growth of pine comes next, and so vice versa. Many men I know are not aware of this fact, but a fact it is, which I have observed nearly my whole life, which has been lengthened to more than three score and ten years.

I could write much more on this subject, but not having had much education, which perhaps has made me have a repugnance to writing,—besides, there are so many men of education who write for agricultural papers now-a-days, many of whose productions have more imagination and theory than sound practical knowledge of agriculture, as appears to me, I will forbear, lest I also should be thought a theorist.

A FARMER.

Crops at the west, and particularly in Michigan, have not come in so favorable as was at one time anticipated. A letter from that State says—"If two thirds of a middling crop of wheat is gathered, I shall feel satisfied. The insect commonly called the Hessian fly, has made great havoc in many places. Latterly a new enemy has appeared, called the "anchor worm." They were nearly as numerous as the flies of Egypt. So annoying and plenty have they been, that they would inundate whole fields, and the farmers have in some instances made trenches around their fields and houses, to save themselves. They move in a mass from one field to another. After finishing a repast and crossing a road, the earth is nearly obscured for many rods."

A good farmer is unceasing in his efforts to add to his manure heaps.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 1840.

AGRICULTURE IN MASSACHUSETTS.

We continue our desultory observations on this subject. To a person accustomed to the farming of western New York, or of the valley of Lancaster in Pennsylvania, or the extensive cultivation of a southern planter, whose "*force*" consists of one or two hundred effectives, to talk of the agriculture of Massachusetts seems bordering on the ridiculous. We recollect a remark of the late lamented Judge Buel, in some published notes of his on a journey he made from Brighton to Albany, that it was matter of perfect surprise to him, where the people got their bread, and what indeed they did produce. We must admit that Massachusetts farming is comparatively a small affair; and yet, taken in the aggregate, its product would be found very greatly to exceed the crude opinions formed of it. Imperfectly as it is pursued, limited in extent, and in its actual amounts of product not yielding perhaps on an average one third what it may be made to yield, its amount in actual pecuniary value would not suffer in comparison with the products of climes esteemed much more favored in climate and the fertility of the soil. The returns of the Assessors made this year to the valuation committee, and the answers demanded on various subjects to the questions required to be put by the United States marshals engaged in the decennial work of taking a census of the Union, will, we believe, disclose results even in regard to the *poor* New England States, which will both surprise and gratify us.

Many a farmer in Massachusetts with his hundred acres, produces all the great supplies for his family of milk, butter, cheese, bread, poultry, eggs, honey, fruit, vegetables, hay, wool, beef, mutton, and pork. He keeps his stock good. He has a yoke of fat cattle to "turn off" every year and a fat ox to "put down;" he has a ton of pork for market; he sells butter and cheese and grain. If he performs the labor with his own hands and the help of his family, then this is all clear gain. If he is obliged to hire some labor, he will find a serious deduction from his profits; but still he will be able to pay this and have in ordinary cases some little surplus left to add to his little stock. This, we admit, requires skill, diligence, and "stay at home" industry; but by these characteristics many of our farmers are eminently distinguished. This supposes likewise that there is no extraordinary drain in the house; so that when a farmer lays up some of his small earnings upon the shelf, he does not, upon going to look after them a second time, find that they regularly "take to themselves wings and fly away." It supposes that the hands in the house do not require to put on kid gloves in order to sweep the floor; and that they do not dread or disdain being soiled by performing any of the domestic labors of the household. If there ever have been situations in life which we have been disposed above all others to envy, it has been family establishments (and thousands of such are scattered all over our happy commonwealth,) where all the household constitute but one family of parents, sons, daughters, and perhaps grandchildren;—where labor is made light, first by simplicity of living, and next by mutual and unvarying kindness; and where throughout the whole there is to be found but one interest and one heart. This now is one kind of Massachusetts farming, which does not indeed exhibit any great amount of profit in an arithmetical form; but in a social and moral aspect presents an eminent prosperity.

We know however many other farmers, who "when times are good," are able from their farms to pay their labor, to sustain their families, and to lay up their five hundred, and some of them their thousand dollars per year. This we say ought to satisfy the desires of any reasonable man. We know that in the new States, where land is entered at the government price, the farmer finds the value of his farm increased twenty and thirty fold and upwards, by the improvements which he puts upon it. This of course is a source of wealth, with which hardly any thing else can come in competition. But the fact that some of the most fertile land on which the rain ever descended or the sun ever shone, and indeed as much as one can desire, can be had as it were for asking, is an accidental circumstance, which forbids any just comparison between the two cases. Yet the same amount of acres brought into comparison, and the pecuniary results balanced, the profit would often be found on the side of the Massachusetts farmer. We have not been very successful in our enquiries either in Ohio or the superlatively fertile prairies of Illinois, to find farmers of even extended possessions, who are able to lay up their thousand or their five hundred dollars per year.

But all our farming is not of this description. We have some farms of considerable extent; and though it would be difficult to find many farms in the commonwealth where twentyfive acres are annually under the plough, we know of many where at least fifty acres or more might with advantage be annually brought under cultivation; and under proper management of the produce, might furnish from its own resources the means of continual improvement. We have said already again and again on so many occasions and in so many forms, what our views are on this subject, that we shall forbear to press the subject. But we are more and more convinced every day, that Massachusetts is capable of a productive and profitable agriculture; that the ambition of the farmers ought to be more and more stimulated; and in proportion as it prompts to more diligence, more labor, and more enterprise, it will meet in Massachusetts with an ample reward.

We should regret to be thought boastful; and there is no occasion for making comparisons, which in general seldom fail to injure those in whose favor they are made, and to become offensive to those whom they throw into the shade; but we have no hesitation in saying that Massachusetts has conferred upon herself the highest honor for the patronage which she has bestowed upon agriculture; and it is equally to her honor that these efforts have been seconded by many distinguished examples of individual liberality, and by the ready and patriotic co-operation of some of the most eminent men and some of the most powerful minds in our community, who have felt the importance of the interest and given to it the weight and influence of their talents and character. H. C.

LABOR PROCURABLE.

We are reminded of a duty, which we have a long time unintentionally omitted; but the discharge of which may now be of great importance to the farmers, and at the same time essentially serve the cause of humanity.

The Farm School on Thompson's Island, in Boston harbor, was established for the rescue of unfortunate children, neglected by their parents, or perhaps without any parents to care for them, who are taken, as far as the funds will admit, and placed on this island, where they receive a good and useful education; their morals are carefully watched over, and they are brought up to habits of mechanical or agricultural labor. They are not criminals or convicts—but unfortunate; and thus rescued from profligacy and ruin. Never was a more benevolent institution. Here now any respectable farmer may always go to obtain as many children as he is willing to take charge of and able to do justice to, who will be bound to him until they are twentyone, upon the most reasonable conditions.

The Female Asylums in Boston and Salem afford the same favorable opportunities in regard to girls. Good families may thus essentially serve their own interests and the cause of humanity, by availing themselves of these advantageous offers. The managers of these establishments are persons of the highest character.

We know a farmer in the State who has now had for some time on his farm, four lads from the house for reformation for juvenile offenders in New York city, and is perfectly satisfied with the experiment. They are under indentures until twentyone, and he is at liberty to return them on commission of any crime. H. C.

THE POLITICAL CRISIS.

It is not for us in this place to enter the political arena; but we have no hesitation in saying, that within our recollection, a more important crisis in public affairs has never presented itself than that which is approaching in the ensuing national elections. The public, from one end of the Union to the other, are actually breathless; the pulse beats with a power which seems to be felt through the whole frame; and the country is rocked as with the heavings of an earthquake. In such case let no man fail to perform his duty. Disdaining all considerations of a mere party character, let every true man determine to discharge his conscience. It is a case, which admits with an honest mind of no vsacillation, hesitation, or distrust, and one in which "The country expects every man to do his duty." This only can save the country. H. C.

Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

Saturday, July 25th, 1840.

By Gen. Sumner, Roxbury—Nutmeg Peaches—very delicate—out door culture.

By Mr Miller, Portland—splendid specimens of Peaches, raised under glass.

By Mr O. Johnson, Lynn—a very large cluster of Zinfindal Grapes—also Black Hamburgh.

By Mr Grosvenor—handsome Apricots.

By Mr Rundle, Warren Street, Boston—fine specimens of very large Apricots.

By Mr B. V. French—Peach Apricots, Heath's Early Nonsuch and Early Harvest Apples.

By B. Guild, Esq., Brookline—July or Sugar Top Pears—an early variety, but not first rate.

By Mr J. Hovey, Roxbury—Early Harvest Apples—quite large—also, White Currants.

By E. M. Richards—Early Harvest, White Junating, and Red Astracan Apples.

Vegetables.—Mr A. Bowditch exhibited specimens of ripe Tomatoes.

For the Committee,

E. M. RICHARDS.

STRAWBERRIES.

We would call the attention of our readers to the advertisement of Mr J. L. L. F. Warren, of Brighton, in this day's paper, who has as fine a collection of the most approved varieties of Strawberry as can be found in the country. Mr Warren attends to the raising and packing of his own plants, and sends out none but such

as are young and thrifty and well packed, so that they may be sent to any part of the country with safety. To those who wish to form a plantation of this delicious fruit, we would recommend the present as being the most suitable time of the year for it. We can furnish plants from Warren's, Hovey's or from any other place in the neighborhood, at the prices advertised.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Aug. 3, 1840.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

At Market 330 Beef Cattle, 95 Stores, 25 Cows and Calves, 2400 Sheep, and 200 Swine.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle.*—We quote to correspond with prices obtained last week for a like quality. Three or four yoke of extra, $6 25. First quality, $6 00. Second quality, $5 50 a $5 75. Third quality, $4 00 a $5 25.

Stores.—Few purchasers only were at market, consequently sales were only effected at a low rate.

Cows and Calves.—$20, $23, $25, $31, $35, $42, and $16.

Sheep.—Lots $1 25, $1 33, $1 42, $1 58, $1 71, $1 92, $2 00, and $2 37.

Swine.—A lot old 4 and 4 1-2, and a lot 4 1-4 and 4 3-4. A lot shoats at 4 5-8. At retail from 4 1-2 to 6.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, weeks ending August 2.

August, 1840.	7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday, 27	65	82	68	S.
Tuesday, 28	61	83	73	S.
Wednesday, 29	70	84	77	W.
Thursday, 30	61	85	71	S. E.
Friday, 31	60	88	60	S. E.
Saturday, 1	59	83	67	N. E.
Sunday, 2	62	84	68	S. E.

We have had a fine growing week. Weather fair until Saturday, when more rain fell than at any one time during the summer. Sunday, "dog days weather," cloudy, warm, and light showers.

SUPERIOR NEW STRAWBERRY.

Hovey's Seedling, a new variety, originated in 1835, and now for the first time offered to the public, after a trial of three years, in a bearing state, has confirmed its superiority over every other variety. It belongs to the class denominated *Pine Strawberries*, and may be described as follows:

Fruit, very large, round, never coxcomb-shaped, even in the largest berries. *Color*, deep shining red. *Seeds*, inserted in a slight cavity. *Flesh*, scarlet, firm, abounding with a most agreeable acid and exceedingly high flavored juice. The vines are as hardy as the Early Virginia, having stood the severity of the several past winters unharmed; growth vigorous, and the fruit well elevated from the ground on strong stems. A full description of this seedling, with an engraving of the fruit, and some account of its origin, treatment, &c. will be given in the August number of the *Magazine of Horticulture*.

This strawberry was first exhibited at the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's Rooms in 1838, again in 1839, and also the present year, and each year obtained the Society's premium, although in competion with the Methven, Keen's Seedling, Downton, &c. Gentlemen well acquainted with all the other varieties cultivated in this country, have seen the bed in full bearing, and hesitatingly pronounce it the largest, finest, most productive and hardy variety they have ever seen.

The entire stock of plants is in the possession of the subscribers, not *one* ever yet having been disposed of, and they are now offered for sale, and will be ready for delivery on and after the 20th of August All orders will be executed in the rotation in which they are received. Plants, $5 *per dozen*. All orders from a distance, enclosing the amount for the plants ordered, will be immediately attended to, and the plants promptly sent to the direction desired.

Also, a fine stock of plants, of the following sorts, all *warrented genuine*, or no charge.

Methven Scarlet, $2 per hundred.
Bishop's Orange, $5 per hundred.
Early Virginia, $1 per hundred.
English Wood, $1 per hundred.

All orders immediately attended to, and the plants speedily forwarded. HOVEY & CO.

Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store,
August 5. 7 Merchants' Row, near State st. Boston.

STRAWBERRIES! STRAWBERRIES!!

Those who are desirous of cultivating this delicious Fruit are respectfully informed that the subscriber has succeeded, after many years experimenting upon the Strawberry, not only in obtaining new varieties, but in ascertaining the best methods of cultivation. The subscriber would offer to the public, the present season, his *Selected Collection* consisting of *seven varieties*; they are such as have stood the test of a *fair trial* for *seven years*, and are all grown by the subscriber.

Specimens of his Fruits have been exhibited every season at the Massachusetts Horticultural Rooms, and have always commanded an extra price in Faneuil Hall Market.

Warren's Seedling Methven, a new and valuable kind, a free bearer, fruit very large and juicy; fruit measuring 5½ inches has been exhibited the present season. This variety can be warranted to be one of the finest varieties grown, and will produce as fine fruit and as large quantity, with the same cultivation, as any other ever offered, although some may ask the *modest (!)* price of $5 per *dozen*. The price of this Seedling is $5 per hundred plants.

Methven Castle—Fruit extremely large, high flavored and showy; specimens of this fruit have been shown this season six inches in circumference. This variety can be said to be very excellent, (when the true kinds is obtained); it is one of the largest late varieties known, profitable and highly worthy of cultivation, all that some growers may say to the contrary, notwithstanding. Price $3 per hundred plants.

Keen's Seedling—A very superior variety, fruit very large, rich dark color, and uncommonly high flavored; has always been considered by English cultivators the best grown. Price $3 per hundred.

Royal Scarlet—Fruit long oval shaped and juicy, very free bearer and very hardy. Price $2.

Hautbois—Fruit larger than English Wood, exceedingly numerous, sometimes yielding 100 berries to the plant. Price $1.

Early Virginia—This is known to be the earliest and best fruit for market, a free bearer, and very hardy.—Price $2.

English Wood—Fruit well known for years. $1.

N. B. Those who are desirous of cultivating this delicious fruit, would find it for their interest to visit the gardens and see the method of cultivation, and satisfy themselves that they can obtain their plants from *first hands*, for it is too often the case that large and attractive advertisements are sent forth to the public by *dealers* in plants, when at the same time they have never grown the kinds offered for sale, and know but little about their cultivation. Attention to this by purchasers, if possible, will save much time and money.

Every plant sent from this garden will be warranted to be free from mixtures, and shall also be young and healthy, worth the price paid for them.

All orders directed to the subscriber, enclosing the amount for the order, or with a good reference, shall be promptly attended to, and the plants carefully forwarded agreeably to directions.

JAMES L. L. F. WARREN.

Nonantum Vale, Brighton, July 25, 1840.

Orders directed to J. BRECK & Co., will be executed with despatch.

WANTED.

A situation as gardener, by a young man who is acquainted with its various branches. The best references can be given. Apply at this office.

July 22.

BUDDING FRUIT TREES.

Cuttings of fruit trees for budding, comprising nearly all the choice sorts of Apples, Pears, Plums, and Cherries, known and cultivated in this country or in Europe, all from bearing trees, can be packed in such a manner as to be sent with perfect safety to any part of this country or Europe. Apply by mail to the subscriber, at the Pomological Garden, Salem, Mass. ROBERT MANNING.

Salem, July 15.

FENCE CHAINS.

Just received from England, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, 6 casks chains, suitable for making the chain fence, &c. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

July 15.

TRACE CHAINS.

Just received, direct from the English manufacturesr, 8 casks of Trace Chains, from 6 to 11 feet long, suitable for ploughing or draft chains. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

July 15.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

CORRECTED WITH GREAT CARE, WEEKLY.

		From	To
Alum, American,	pound	5	5½
Ashes, Pearl, per 100 lbs.		5 37	5 50
Pot, " " "		4 50	4 75
Beans, white, Foreign,	bushel	1 75	2 25
" " Domestic,	"	2 00	2 50
Beef, mess,	barrel	14 50	15 00
No. 1.	"		
prime,	"	11 00	11 50
Beeswax, white,	pound	33	40
yellow,	"	25	28
Bristles, American,	"	35	70
Butter, shipping,	"	10	11
dairy,	"	22	25
Candles, mould,	"	13	14
dipped,	"		
sperm,	"		37
Cheese, new milk,	pound	10	
Cider,	dozen	1 25	1 50
refined,	barrel	2 00	4 00
Bone Manure,	bushel		32
in casks,	"		37
Feathers, northern, geese,	pound		
southern, geese,	"	37	45
Flax, (American)	"	9	12
Fish, Cod, Grand Bank,	quintal	1 75	2 12
Bay, Chaleur,	"	1 50	1 75
Haddock,	"	87	1 00
Mackerel, No. 1	barrel	11 00	11 25
No. 2,	"	9 00	9 25
No. 3,	"	4 12	4 37
Alewives, dry salted. No. 1.	"		
Salmon, No. 1,	"	15 00	16 00
Flour, Genesee, cash,	"		5 19
Baltimore, Howard street,	"	5 25	5 37
Richmond canal,	"	5 05	5 12
Alexandria wharf,	"		
Rye,	"	3 00	
Meal, Indian, in bbls.	"	3 00	
Grain: Corn, northern yellow,	bushel	62	65
southern flat, yellow,	"	57	58
white,	"	54	56
Rye, northern,	"	59	60
Barley,	"		
Oats, northern, (prime)	"	44	46
southern,	"	35	39
Grindstones, pr ton of 2000 lbs. rough		18 00	19 00
do. do. do. finished		28 00	30 00
Hams, northern,	pound	9½	10
southern and western,	"		
Hay, best English, per ton,		15 00	16 00
Eastern screwed,		10 50	
Hops, 1st quality,	pound		
2d quality,	"		
Lard, Boston,	"	10	11
southern,	"	10	11
Leather, Philadelphia city tannage,	"	29	30
do. country do.	"	25	27
Baltimore city tannage,	"	26	28
do. dry hides,	"	22	24
New York red, light,	"	20	21
Boston, do. slaughter,	"	21	22
Boston dry hides,	"	18	20
Lime, best sort,	cask	75	80
Molasses, New Orleans,	gallon	20	27
Sugar House,	"		
Oil, Sperm, Spring,	"	1 00	
Winter,	"	1 10	
Whale, refined,	"	40	45
Linseed, American,	"	65	70
Neat's Foot,	"	95	
Plaster Paris, per ton of 2200 lbs.			
Pork, extra clear,	barrel	16 00	17 00
clear,	"		16 00
Mess,	"	14 00	15 00
Prime,	"	12 50	13 50
Seeds: Herd's Grass,	bushel	2 50	3 00
Red Top, southern,	"	70	80
northern,	"		1 50
Canary,	"	2 00	2 25
Hemp,	"	2 25	2 50
Flax,	"	2 00	2 50
Red Clover, northern,	pound	13	14
Southern Clover,	"		15
Soap, American, Brown,	"	5	7
Castile,	"	12	13
Tallow, tried,	"	8½	9
Teazles, 1st sort,	pr M.		
Wool, prime, or Saxony Fleeces,	pound	45	48
American, full blood, washed,	"	40	45
do. 3-4ths do.	"	40	
do. 1-2 do.	"	35	38
do. 1-4 and common,	"	35	37
Northern pulled. Pulled superfine,	"	42	45
No. 1,	"	35	40
No. 2,	"	23	25
No. 3,	"	18	20

MISCELLANEOUS.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE WEATHER.

Mists.—A white mist in the evening over a meadow or a river, will be drawn up by the sun next morning and the day will be bright. Five or six fogs successively drawn up, portend rain. Where there are high hills, and the mist which hangs over the lower lands draws towards the hills in the morning, and rolls up to the top, it will be fair; but if the mist hangs upon the hills, and drags along the woods, there will be rain.

Clouds.—Against much rain, the clouds grow bigger and increase very fast, especially before thunder. When the clouds are formed like fleeces but dense in the middle, bright towards the edge, with the sky bright, they are signs of a frost, with hail, snow or rain. If clouds breed high in the air, in their white trains, like locks of wool, they portend wind, and probably rain. When a general cloudiness covers the sky, and small black fragments of clouds fly underneath, they are sure signs of rain, and probably it will be lasting. Two currents of clouds always portend rain, and in summer thunder.

Dew.—If the dew lies plentifully on the grass after a fair day, it is the sign of another. If not, and there is no wind, rain must follow. A red evening portends fine weather; but if spread too far upwards from the horizon in the evening, and especially morning, it foretels wind or rain, or both. When the sky in rainy weather is tinged with sea green, the rain will increase; if deep blue it will be showery.

Heavenly Bodies.—A haziness in the air which fades the sun's light, and makes the orb appear whitish or ill defined; or at night, if the moon and stars grow dim, and a ring encircles the former, rain will follow. If the sun's rays appear like Moses's horn, if white at setting, or shorn of his rays, or goes down into a bank of clouds in the horizon, bad weather is expected. If the moon looks pale and dim, we expect rain; if red, wind; and if of her natural color, with a clear sky, fair weather. If the moon is rainy throughout, it will clear at the change, and perhaps the rain return a few days after. If fair throughout, and rain at the change, the fair weather will probably return on the fourth or fifth day. If the setting sun appears yellow or gold color, and particularly if accompanied with purple streaks, the following day will be fine.

Wind.—If the wind veers about, much rain is pretty sure. If in changing it follows the course of the sun, it brings fair weather; the contrary, foul. Whistling or howling of the wind, is a sure sign of rain.

Meteors.—The Aurora Borealis, after warm days, is generally succeeded by cooler air. Shooting stars are supposed to indicate wind.

Animals.—Before rain, swallows fly low; dogs grow sleepy and eat grass; water fowls dive much; fish will not bite; flies are more troublesome; toads crawl about; moles, ants, bees, and many insects are very busy; birds fly low for insects; swine, sheep and cattle are uneasy, and even the human body.

Where there has been no particular storm about the time of the spring equinox, (March 21,) if a storm arise from the east on or before that day, or if a storm from any point of the compass arise near a week after the equinox, then, in either of these cases, the succeeding summer is generally dry, four times in five. But if a storm arise from the S. W. or W. S. W., on or just before the equinox, then the summer following is generally wet five times in six.—*Shooter's Annual.*

Extreme Delicacy.—The disposition to be agonizingly delicate, is well ridiculed in the following:

"Is there any thing the matter?'

"There is, sir," was the host's reply.

"Have I given any offence?"

"You have, sir."

"Really I am ignorant of it."

"Such language won't suit here, sir."

"My dear sir, *what* language?"

"We were talking of soup."

"We were."

"You mentioned *ox tail.*"

"I did."

"That's it, that's it, sir; that sent the ladies blushing out of the room—that highly improper language, which I never heard at any board before, and should not have expected from you."

"Why, sir, I but called it by its proper name. You asked a question and I replied. I am, however, sorry that it has given offence, but I really do not know how I could have avoided it."

"Then, sir, I advise you when you have an occasion another time to speak of that particular soup, do not call it ox-tail."

"What shall I call it?"

"*Fly disperser.*"

"Thank you, sir: I think I shall remember the 'fly disperser' soup."

Love.—If women do snarl up a feller's heart strings, they keep him out of other scrapes—any body what knows will tell you that. A man that is in love a leetle is not always running into rum holes and other such places. He don't go a gambling, and isn't sneakin' round nights.—*Sam Slick.*

Green House Propagator, and Silk Worms' Eggs.

Wanted in a permanent location an industrious, steady man, capable of taking charge of a large collection of Green House Plants, skilful at propagating, and a general good manager in all respects. Apply by mail with the most satisfactory references.

Persons wishing superior White Imperial and White Mammoth Silk Worms' Eggs, of crop 1839, can be supplied at $4 to $5 per ounce, and eggs of this year's crop, for next year's use, will be supplied at $2 per ounce to all those who send the cash in advance, within thirty days from this date.

WILLIAM PRINCE & SON.

Flushing, July 29, 1840.

BERKSHIRE HOGS.

The subscribers offer for sale a few pair of full blooded Berkshire Hogs; also, pigs 7-8 blood, crossed with Mackay. Inquire at the New England Farmer office, or at their farm at Brighton. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

July 29.

TIE UP CHAINS.

Just received at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, a good supply of those celebrated Chains for tying up cattle. These chains, introduced by E. H. Derby, Esq. of Salem, and Col. Jacques, of Charlestown, for the purpose of securing cattle to the stall, are found to be the safest and most convenient mode of fastening cows and oxen to the stanchion. They consist of a chain which passes round the animal's neck, and by a ring attached to the stall, plays freely up and down, and leaves the animal at liberty to lie down or rise at pleasure, and keeps him perfectly secure.

July 15. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

DISHLEY SHEEP.

For sale, twenty full blood Dishley or New Leicester Ewes, and one Ram. Price $10 each. Apply at the Farmer Office.

June 24. *

SCYTHES, RAKES, &c.

The subscribers offer for sale a very extensive and complete assortment of Scythes, Rakes, &c. consisting in part of

300	dozen	Phillips, Messer and Colby's superior Scythes.	
50	"	Metcalf's	do. do.
50	"	Taft's cast steel	do. do.
25	"	English do. do.	Grass do.
10	"	do. do. do.	Cradle do.
10	"	do. do. do.	Border do.
100	"	Hall's Rakes, superior.	
100	"	Wilder & Eddy's do. do.	
200	"	Common do. do.	
100	"	Clapp's patent Scythe Snaiths.	
50	"	Baker's do. do. do.	
100	"	Common do. do. do.	
2500	"	Austin's superior Rifles.	
2000	"	Common do.	
1000	"	Scythe Stones.	
100	"	Grain Cradles superior.	

They would respectfully call the attention of Dealers and Agriculturists to the above assortment, which consists of many of the best kinds now in use, and which they are prepared to sell at the very lowest prices.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, **51 & 52** *North Market Street.*

May 20.

BONE MANURE.

The subscriber informs his friends and the public, that after ten years experience, he is fully convinced that ground bones form the most powerful stimulant that can be applied to the earth as a manure.

Orders for Bone Manure or Oyster Shell Lime, left at the Bone Mill, near Tremont road, in Roxbury, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, No. 52 North Market Street, or through the Post Office will meet with prompt attention.

March 4, 1840. NAHUM WARD.

DORKING FOWLS.

For sale, a few pairs of pure Dorking Fowls. The stock, of which these are the produce, were procured in Dorking, County of Surrey, England. "Few breeds have a title to boast of so high and long continued a reputation as the Dorking. Upwards of fifty five years have passed, since, while resident in Surrey, I sent to Dorking for my first regular breeding-stock: they were then the ancient and superior five-clawed breed of Surrey."—*Mowbray on Poultry, 7th Edition.*

This breed attains to a large size, and the hens are the best of layers. Price $3 per pair. Apply to

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

June 24. tf

GARDENERS' KNIVES.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. have this season imported and now offer for sale a few very superior Garden Knives, for pruning, &c. manufactured expressly for Gardeners, and warranted superior to any article of the kind before imported.

Also—a large assortment of Budding Knives, Grape Scissors, &c. &c.

April 22.

SUPERB ROCKET LARKSPUR SEED.

The subscribers offer for sale a quantity of Superb Double Rocket Larkspur Seed, of their own raising, saved from double flowering plants only, embracing all the different colors. For fine, strong and early plants, the seed should be sown in August. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

June 17.

PURE BLOOD BERKSHIRE PIGS.

The Society of Shakers at Harvard, Mass., have for sale the Pure Blood Berkshire Pigs. Also, a lot of Berkshire crossed with other Breeds, on reasonable terms at their Village.

Persons wishing to *be sure* of the clear Berkshire breed may rely on those they offer for sale, as they are the progeny of some of the latest imported from England.

June 24.

HORTICULTURAL TOOL CHESTS.

Containing a complete set of Garden tools of superior finish and style, recently received from Liverpool and for sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store.

May 6. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

PATENT SPRING BALANCE.

A few of those very convenient spring balances, for family use, a very simple contrivance for weighing small articles. JOSEPH BRECK & CO. No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

July 15.

THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER

Is published every Wednesday Evening, at $3 per annum payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within sixty days from the time of subscribing are entitled to a deduction of 50 cents.

TUTTLE, DENNETT AND CHISHOLM, PRINTERS,

17 SCHOOL STREET....BOSTON